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Amendment
Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-10447-US01

Amendments To The Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A medical device having a longitudinal axis, the device comprising a plurality of serpentine bands formed of interconnected struts, the serpentine bands including:

special struts which extend between peaks and troughs, each having a first side with a first region of first curvature relative to the longitudinal axis and a second side with a second region of second curvature relative to the longitudinal axis, the first region opposite the second region, the first region curving in a direction opposite to the second region relative to the longitudinal axis of the device, each special strut having a radiopaque marker between the first and second regions, each special strut having a plurality of interconnected struts adjacent the first side, the interconnected struts having curved regions which curve about the first region and a plurality of interconnected struts adjacent the second side, the interconnected struts having curved regions which curve about the second region,

at least one cover, the at least one cover on at least one region of the medical device, a plurality of the radiopaque markers marking the proximal end of the at least one region and a plurality of the radiopaque markers marking the distal end of the at least one region.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the special struts are in a region between the ends of the medical device.

Claim 3. (Canceled)

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the cover extends about the circumference of the medical device.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the cover does not cover the entirety of the medical device.

Claim 6. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 comprising a second cover covering a second region of the stent, another portion of the special struts located at the periphery of the second region of the stent.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein a cover extends about the medical device in the region of each special strut.

Claim 8. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 2 wherein the special struts are

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located anywhere between the middle of the medical device and a position one half of the way from the middle of the medical device to an end of the medical device.

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein some of the special struts are at one end of the medical device.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 1 wherein one of the special struts is at one end of the medical device and another special strut is at the other end of the medical device.

Claims 11-12. (Canceled)

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the radiopaque markers are in the form of plated radiopaque material, coated radiopaque material, or painted radiopaque material~~radiopaque material-plated, coated or painted on the special strut.~~

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 1 wherein the radiopaque markers are in the form of swaged radiopaque material or welded radiopaque material~~radiopaque material-swaged or welded onto the special strut.~~

Claim 15. (Original) The medical device of claim 1 in the form of a stent.

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) A stent comprising:

a plurality of serpentine bands having peaks and troughs and struts extending therebetween, at least one of the serpentine bands interconnected struts including at least one special struts, each special strut having a region with an enlarged width with a greater radiopacity than the remainder of the strut, a plurality of struts of the serpentine band adjacent one side of the special strut having complementary shapes thereto and another plurality of struts of the serpentine band adjacent another side of the special strut having complementary shapes thereto at least one annular section of segments having a proximal and a distal end, there being a plurality of special struts disposed adjacent to the proximal end of the annular section and a plurality of special struts disposed adjacent to the distal end of the annular section.

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 16 wherein the special strut struts are ~~is~~ in a region between the ends of the stent.

Claim 18. (Currently Amended) The stent of claim 17 further comprising a cover disposed about at least one ~~section of interconnected~~ serpentine segments.

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Claim 19-21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 16 wherein some of the struts with the enlarged width are located anywhere between the middle of the stent and a position one half of the way from the middle of the stent to an end of the stent.

Claim 23. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 16 wherein some of the struts with the enlarged width are at one end of the stent.

Claim 24. (Original) The stent of claim 16 wherein the region with the enlarged width is substantially circular or oval.

Claim 25. (Original) The stent of claim 16 in bifurcated form.

Claims 26. (Currently Amended) A stent in an unexpanded state comprising:

a plurality of serpentine bands formed of interconnected struts, including a proximal-most serpentine band and a distal-most serpentine band and a plurality of intermediate serpentine bands between the proximal-most and distal-most serpentine bands, some of the intermediate serpentine bands including special struts, each special strut having a radiopaque marker, marker,

at least one cover, the at least one cover on at least one region of the medical device, a plurality of the portion of the special struts located at one end of the periphery of the at least one covered region cover and another plurality of the special struts located at another end of the cover to mark the location of the cover

wherein the special struts are located only in intermediate serpentine bands.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 26 wherein the special struts are not at an end of the stent.

Claim 28. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 26 wherein the radiopaque markers are bulbous.

Claims 29-33. (Canceled)

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 1 wherein the cover does not extend about an entire circumference of the stent.

Claim 35. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 34 where the cover does not extend over the entire length of the stent.

Claim 36. (Currently Amended) A stent comprising a first end region, a second end region

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and a central region, the first and second end regions having serpentine patterns of struts, the stent having a pattern of struts in the central region which differs from the serpentine patterns of struts in the first and second end regions, the stent having regions of enhanced radiopacity, wherein the regions of enhanced radiopacity delineate boundaries of the central region of the stent, the regions of enhanced radiopacity located on struts between areas of unenhanced radiopacity.